

UNAPPROVED

STERLING HEIGHTS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012  
D.P.W. FACILITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
7200 18 MILE ROAD - STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48314

Chairperson Kesek called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Members present: Christine Kesek, Mario Bassi and Jack Beard

Members absent: Pete Mattera (excused), Wayne Davis (excused)

Also in attendance: Jim Buhlinger, Public Works Manager, Sal Conigliaro, DPW Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Bassi, supported by Kesek, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Kesek, Bassi and Beard

Nays: None

Absent: Mattera and Davis

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The January meeting minutes were not approved at the March meeting. Staff was given direction to include the January meeting minutes on the next agenda for approval.

#### RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Buhlinger indicated that all refuse/recycling/yard waste correspondence received/sent by DPW Administration since last meeting in January has been delineated and presented under Correspondence on the Agenda. As previously discussed by the Solid Waste Management Commission (SWMC), copies of these correspondences were available at the meeting for review and discussion.

Additionally, the Waste & Recycling News publications received since the last meeting were listed under Correspondence and were available for review.

Moved by Bassi, supported by Kesek, to receive and file correspondence as presented.

Ayes: Kesek, Bassi, and Beard

Nays: None

Absent: Mattera and Davis

Motion carried.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS:

There was no communication from citizens.

#### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION AGENDA

##### OLD BUSINESS

A. Macomb County Solid Waste Plan – Mr. Buhlinger spoke with Mr. Conigliaro who indicated that there has been no action taken by the Macomb County Solid Waste Commission.

B. Senate Bill 725 of 2009 – Mr. Conigliaro indicated that although there has been no significant movement on the Senate Bill 725, House Bill 4265 is making progress. The possibility exists that they may be blended together. Staff will continue to monitor legislative activity.

C. Quarterly statistics (Nov-Dec-Jan)

1. Official Board Markets – Since the last quarterly meeting, the only change has been an unfavorable one. The yellow sheet market price per ton has decreased significantly from \$65 to \$35 per ton of paper and cardboard collected at our sites. This \$35 per ton rate was in place for the months of December and January. The impact of this change is reflected in a shift from net revenue to net cost of operating the recycling centers for this time period. (Although beyond the scope of this quarterly review, the February rate has increased back to \$50 per ton)

2. Refuse Collection Requests (by section) – Discussion ensued regarding the graphic presenting the prior 3-months, the current 3-months and the 12-month rolling average. There were no discernable issues identified with the graph.

3. Refuse Collection Requests (by type) – The trend line for this prompted no questions from the Commission. Review of the graphed information did not identify any irregularities, as it relates to the service requests received by the DPW and forwarded to Waste Management.

4. Cell Phones for Soldiers – Review of the trend line continues to reflect somewhat steady donations. Donations have decreased over the longer-term period most notably due to the increase in number of organizations that accept phones under this program. Increased frequency on press releases and web site information made increase awareness and subsequent donations.

5. Waste Management (WM) Collection Volumes – This graphic displays data in two distinct presentations with the first being all types of collections (refuse, yard waste, and white goods) overlaid by the actual precipitation for each month. The second graph reflects only the relationship between yard waste collected and rainfall. The amount of yard waste collected continues to correlate with the actual amount of rainfall.

6. Recycling Report (by commodity) – There have been no significant variations in commodities collected at our recycling yards over the past three months. With the recent approval of voluntary curbside recycling and subsequent implementation by Waste Management this coming fall, a close eye will be kept on these figures to see if there is a measurable decrease in the amounts being collected

7. Summary of Recycling Center Operations (expenditures & revenues) – The four-month trend that had occurred from August through November ended in December due to the drop-off in paper prices being paid. This change has shifted the overall net operating position from net revenue to a net cost for the months of December and January.

## NEW BUSINESS

A. Future Meetings – Meetings are published, scheduled, and conducted on the second Wednesday of each month. Quarterly meetings occur every three months with analysis of data captured and graphed by staff. Discussion ensued regarding this by-law requirement and the need to modify this schedule. The Commission discussed the need to change the schedule and offered the following motion.

Moved by Bassi, supported by Beard, to amend the Commission by-laws to reflect a change in the regular scheduled meetings from monthly to quarterly.

Ayes: Kesek, Bassi and Beard

Nays: None

Absent: Mattera and Davis

Motion carried.

## B. Administrative Comments:

a. Voluntary Curbside Recycling – City Council recently approved the ordinance amendment. Mr. Conigliaro fully explained the voluntary program to the Commission and answered all questions that arose.

b. Collaborative E-Waste recycling – The DRAFT RPF was finalized by Sterling Heights Purchasing and presented to the collaborative group on Thursday, March 8. Sterling Heights' Purchasing Manager met with the group to discuss the proposal and lay out his plan for distribution and implementation. Slight changes in language were suggested by the group.

c. E-Waste Recycling Event – The date of Saturday, May 12, 2012 has been set for a Sterling Heights’ sponsored household E-Waste recycling event at the DPW. Notice has already been placed on the City’s web site and press releases placed. 5R has created and distributed flyers and posters that have been circulated throughout City buildings. The City will disseminate information via press releases and use of the web site. 5R will be using radio spots to get the word out. Bill Coffin and/or Sal Conigliaro will be working this event.

d. Free Shred Day – The date has been finalized for the spring Free Shred Day in Sterling Heights. Shred Legal will be at the DPW on Saturday, June 9 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Bill Coffin and/or Sal Conigliaro will coordinate this event.

D. Commission Members Comments:

a. There were no comments from the Commission for discussion.

The next Solid Waste Management Commission Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. at the D.P.W. Facility.

ADJOURN

Moved by Bassi, supported by Beard, to adjourn the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Ayes: Kesek, Bassi and Beard

Nays: None

Absent: Mattera and Davis

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Beard

Secretary